

Message Text

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53

ACTION EB-11

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ADP-00 L-03 COME-00 HEW-08 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 RSR-01 /046 W

----- 050176

R 120909 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4414

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EIND, RP

SUBJECT: PROPOSED REVISION OF PHILIPPINE PATENT LAW FOR
PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS

REF STATE 052964

1. POSITION PAPER PREPARED BY PHARMACEUTICAL MANUFACTURERS
ASSOCIATION (PMA) RECEIVED AND TRANSMITTED TO JOSE UNSON,
CHAIRMAN OF GOP SUB- COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, ON
MARCH 30. ON APRIL 12, EMBOFFS CALLED ON UNSON TO DISCUSS
STATUS OF PROPOSED PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 49- A. ACCORDING TO
UNSON, DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF POSITION PAPERS WAS EXTENDED
TO APRIL 30. SUB- COMMITTEE WILL CONSIDER VIEWS PUT FORWARD
BY PHARMACEUTICAL REPRESENTATIVES AND FOREIGN GOVERNMENTS
AND WILL ARRIVE AT DECISION BY END OF MAY.

2. UNSON SAID PROPOSED DECREE 49- A HAD GENERATED CONSIDERABLE
OPPOSITION FROM FOREIGN PHARMACEUTICAL FIRMS. EMBOFFS RELATED
POINTS CONTAINED REFTEL, AND EXPRESSED USG CONCERN OVER
THE PROPOSED LEGISLATION. WHILE UNSON COULD MAKE NO
COMMITMENTS REGARDING FINAL OUTCOME OF 49- A, HE EXPRESSED
OPINION THAT ANY DECREE WOULD BE MODIFIED CONSIDERABLY
FROM ORIGINAL PROPOSAL. UNSON ADDED THAT NATIONAL
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (NEDA) HAS ASKED FOR FULL BRIEFING
ON ISSUE.

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3. IN ADDITION U. S. EMBASSY EFFORTS, OTHER EMBASSIES HAVE MADE REPRESENTATIONS TO PHILIPPINE AUTHORITIES. BRITISH EMBASSY, IN PARTICULAR, SENT LETTER TO UNSON DETAILING BRITISH GOVERNMENT OPPOSITION TO PROPOSED DECREE. PMA HAS ALSO BEEN ACTIVE AND THEIR REPRESENTATIVE CONFERRED WITH EMBASSY AND RESIDENT AMERICAN COMPANIES DURING HIS VISIT HERE LAST MONTH.

4. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW SITUATION CLOSELY BOTH DIRECTLY WITH GOP OFFICIALS AND THROUGH CONTACT WITH U. S. PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANIES IN THE PHILIPPINES.
BYROADE

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

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Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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